

Appln No. 10/633,944  
Reply to Office Action of December 23, 2005

### REMARKS

#### 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. Claims 5 and 6 have been amended to overcome the rejection.

#### 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baldoni et al. (US 6,360,802) taken in view of at least one of Caretta (US 3,598,673), Byerley (US 6,457,505 – newly cited) and Felten et al (US 4,239,579 – newly cited). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons. Claims 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Caretta (US 3,598,673) or Landsness (US 4,780,170) or Olbert et al. (US 3,853,653 – for claim 5 only)] taken in view of at least one Baldoni et al (US 6,360,802) and Kneip (US 4,976,804) and further in view of at least one of Caretta (US 3,598,673 – only for the rejections not based on Caretta), Byerley (US 6,457,505 – newly cited) and Felten et al. (US 4,239,579 – newly cited).

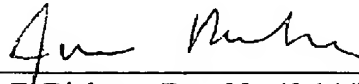
Claim 5 has been amended to include the structural limitation that each bead lock is connected to a central screw of a central drive shaft of the tire building drum. Unamended claim 6 recites that each bead lock mechanism being mounted on axially movable housings connected to the central screw. None of the cited references alone or in combination teach or suggest this structural limitation. The Baldoni reference teaches a piston 37 and is not actuated by central screw 11. Further, both claims recite the required structural limitation that the the axial distance of the movement of the bead core is equal to the radial expansion distance of the central support segments. None of the cited references teach this required limitation.

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In light of this amendment, all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application are allowable. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to allow all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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